

AMHERST HEALTH DEPARTMENT

WOOD BURNING OPERATOR'S EXAMINATION

The following questions are either TRUE/FALSE or MULTIPLE CHOICE. Please answer accordingly.

1. Green unseasoned wood provides less heat and causes more creosote formation than dry seasoned wood.

_____ TRUE _____ FALSE

2. Most wood should be cut for approximately one year to be considered dry, seasoned wood.

_____ TRUE _____ FALSE

3. It makes sense to burn each load of wood briskly at approximately 500-600 degrees for the first 20-30 minutes to drive off moisture and reduce creosote.

_____ TRUE _____ FALSE

4. A wood burning device operates more efficiently and more economically with:

_____ a) small, hot fires

_____ b) large, cooler fires

5. Which of the following happens when the damper is turned down and air flow to the fire is reduced?

_____ a) air pollution is reduced because the air flow is less.

_____ b) air pollution is increased because the air supply is reduced and unburned gases in the firebox escape up the chimney.

6. Inefficient combustion of gases increases chemical emissions and creosote in the chimney.

_____ TRUE _____ FALSE

7. After start-up, the temperature of the flue gases exiting a wood burning device should be within the range of 300 - 400 degrees, as measured by the stove's flue pipe thermometer placed on the flue pipe.

_____ TRUE _____ FALSE

8. When loading a wood burning device, emission of pollutants into the home can be reduced by:
- _____ a) opening the flue dampers
- _____ b) closing the flue dampers
9. Household and other trash may produce harmful chemical emissions when burned.
- _____ TRUE _____ FALSE
10. Will burning wood in damp foggy weather generally increase or decrease noticeable pollution?
- _____ a) increase
- _____ b) decrease
11. To properly maintain safety, the flue from a wood burning device should be inspected and/or cleaned at least once a year.
- _____ TRUE _____ FALSE
12. Three major causes of stove inefficiency and increased air pollution are:
- _____ insufficient oxygen
- _____ low firebox temperature
- _____ high firebox temperature
- _____ using a stove too large for the space to be heated
13. Certain organic ingredients in wood smoke, such as polycyclic organic material (POMs) are considered dangerous because of the potential cancer-causing substances.
- _____ TRUE _____ FALSE
14. Efficient combustion of gases occurs when the chimney shows little or no visible smoke.
- _____ TRUE _____ FALSE

Thank you for doing your part to reduce air pollution in Amherst!

PLEASE RETURN TO:

**Amherst Health Department
70 Boltwood Walk
Amherst, MA 01002**

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS IS ON THIS EXAM.